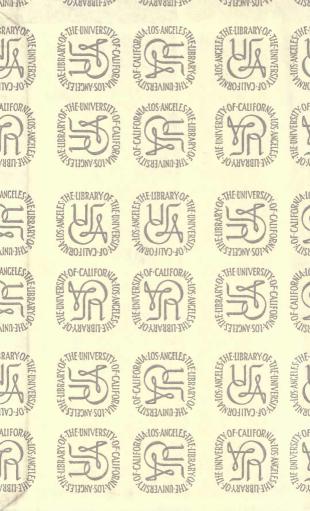
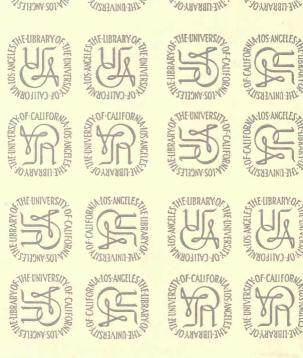
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HEIGHINEBEN



A Grat Britain's Deliverance and Duty:

Represented in a

SERMON

AT

RINGWOOD, Hants;

MAY 4, 1746.

In grateful Commemoration of the glorious VICTORY obtained over the REBELS near INVERNESS in SCOTLAND, April 16, 1746.

Publish'd by Request, with Enlargements.

By JOHN HORSEY.

Barbarorum Claudius agmina
Ferrata vasto diruit impetu,
Primosque & extremos metendo
Stravit humum, sine clade victor.
Horat. Lib. IV. Ode 14.

LONDON:

Printed for the AUTHOR; And fold by J. OSWALD, at the Rose and Crown in the Poultry; M. COOPER, at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row; and R. King, at the Bible and Crown in Fore-street. MDCCXLVI.

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TOTHE

CONGREGATION

Which attends my MINISTRY.

Dear Brethren,

INCE the enfuing Discourse appears in Print, in Obedience to the repeated Request of several amongst you, I hope it will be equally acceptable in *Reading*, as it *seems* to have been in *Hearing*.

The Providential Occurrence it refers to, calls for liberal Ascriptions of Praise.

Ule

Use and prize your Liberty rescued out of the Jaws of Ruin .--- What has God wrought for Britain? Let me call upon you, let me call upon loyal Protestants in general, to abound in Thankfulness, for the kind Reprieve Heaven has granted us, from Popery and Slavery, from Prisons and Chains, and torturing Deaths .-- We may well exult, now the lowring Storm is in some measure disperst: But must not our Pleasure submit to some Alloy? Should we not rejoice with Trembling? The Campaign in Flanders is not yet concluded; the Defigns of the Loitering and Mercenary Dutch, are yet impenetrable; the Destination of the Brest and Ferrol Squadrons is to us uncertain .-- Whilft, however, there is Matter for Joy, let us rejoice; let not the Children of the Bridegroom mourn, whilst the Bridegroom is with them.

You will observe this Discourse is built upon an Evangelical Bass. Privileges and Mercies are recited as Incentives to Duty; and I apprehend, human Invention is unable to fuggest any Motives which are more influential and forcible to a truly generous Mind. To what an exalted Pitch should our Joys and Praise advance, if we are bleffed with spiritual as well as temporal Deliverances? If freed from the Curse of a broken Law, the Servitude of Satan, the Tyranny and Dominion of our Lusts; let us praise the Father of all Mercies for his unspeakable Kindness abounding to us through Jesus Christ his Son; let us love him who hath first loved us.

May the God of all Grace bless this well-meant Discourse, to the Excitement of National Gratitude and Obedience.

Finally, Brethren, that God may dwell in your Hearts and Houses, preserve your Civil and Religious Liberties, improve your Gifts and Graces, and bring you at length to that World, where the Wicked cease from Troubling, and the Weary are at Rest; is the earnest Desire and Prayer of, Sirs,

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Your respectful

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Eather of all Mercies for his unlocale-

Ringwood, May 9,

Pinally,

what if for loved us.

P. S. Since (thro' the Partiality of Friends) I am exposed to the Cenfures of the Critical World; being conscious that I need, I therefore intreat their Candor.

JUDGES v. 2.

Praise ye the Lord for the avenging of Israel, when the People willingly offered themselves.

S it is our *Interest* when God's Judgments are abroad in the the Earth, to learn Righte-ousness; so it is equally our *Duty* when he crowns our Lives with Loving-kindness and tender Mercy, to acknowledge our Deliverer. If in the midst of Wrath God remembers Mercy, we are called upon to sing of Mercy as well as Judgment. But alas! tho' under Affliction we may seek him early; yet where is the Man, who in Times of Prosperity suitably rejoices?

Altho' Ingratitude is one of the principal Ingredients in a justly odious Character, and condemned by the common Confent of Mankind, yet we find its Contagion spreads through the whole of human Nature: Hezekiah rendered not again, according to the Benefit done unto him †: Ten Lepers were cleanfed, but only one returned to give God Glory ‡. Popularity by no means foftens or changes its deteftable Nature; for

If Communities indulge it, that Indulgence is branded with a Mark of Infamy. Ifrael fang his Praise: They foon forgat his Works |; in their first Act they represent their religious Complaisance, in the other their Ingratiof Writeh God remembers but to

Left we (biaffed by Numbers) should copy after those ungrateful Precedents, and rob the Lord of Hofts of that Glory which is his Due, and bury in

^{† 2} Chron. xxxii. 25. ‡ Luke xvii. 17, 18. | Pfalm cvi. 12, 13.

Oblivion his late Interposition in our Favour; we propose to point out the Conquerors Duty from the Words first read; which were occasioned by the signal Victory which Barak, at the Head of the Israelites, obtained over Sisera the Captain of King Jabin's Hosts.

This World, once the Seat of Juftice, Harmony, and Felicity, is (thro' the Fall) become an ACELDAMA, or Field of Blood: Nation rifes against Nation, and Kingdom against Kingdom. From this melancholy Caufe arises a Legion of Evils, viz. oppreflive Cruelty, horrid Rebellions, and ungenerous Treasons .-- Whenever these raife their monstrous Heads, Interest and Duty jointly prompt a People, jealous of their Civil and Religious Liberties, to implore the Affistance of Heaven: This was the first Weapon which the threatned Ifraelites levelled at Sifera +. Nevertheless, they durst

not tempt the Holy One of Israel, by neglecting the means of Deliverance which Providence put into their Hands; but, on the contrary, they fought and invited the friendly Affistance of their Allies +. Thus they, in Obedience to the Dictates of Nature, supported by Divine Revelation, wisely prepared the Horse against the Day of Battle, tho' they believed that Safety was of the Lord ‡: 'Twas their fettled Resolution to look beyond Instruments, determining, whilft some trusted in Chariots, and fome in Horses, they would remember the Name of the Lord their God ||. Thus you fee, they committed their Way unto the Lord; they trusted also in him: nevertheless their Trials continued till (possibly) many of them stagger'd at the Promise of God thro' Unbelief. Nor is it strange, fince, for the Space of twenty Years, Sifera mightily oppressed the Children of Israel §. It is no infallible Proof,

+ Ch.iv. 10. ‡ Prov. xxi. 31. || Pf. xx. 7. § Ch.iv. 3. how-

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however, that the humble Addresses of the Distressed are neglected, merely because not answered agreeable to Expectation, or because Tribulations abound; for by terrible Things in Righteoufness, God sometimes answers his People, tho' the God of their Salvation +: Their Prayers are graciously heard, tho' their Persons are (for a Season) awfully scourged. But the Lord will not always chide, or retain his apparent anger for ever: Nay, he will espouse and make that Cause his own, which for a Time wore the Marks of divine Rejection. God, like a powerful Confederate, will reveal his Arm in the Vindication of his oppressed Petitioners; he will redrefs their Grievances, and abundantly recompense their Injuries: Witness the Instance before us. The fet Time to favour Israel being come (tho' the Heathen raged, and the People imagined a vain Thing; tho' the Rulers took Counfel together

+ Pfalm lxv. 5.

against the Lord, and against his Anointed; faying, Let us break their Bands afunder, and cast away their Cords from us) he that fitteth in the Heavens laught, the Lord beheld them with Derifion †: For he, having the Hearts of all Men in his Hands, inspired his favourite People with a just Refentment, gave them Courage to attempt a Deliverance, and Resolution to accomplish it. Being equipt from above, the People willingly offered themfelves to confront their infulting Enemies .-- Barak's Forces were not a Collection of Slaves, drove into the Field by the Threats and Cruelty of a Tyrant: No, he had the Honour and Pleasure of commanding an Army of Volunteers .--- And really their Conduct when engaged, loudly proclaimed the Concurrence of their Hearts with their Spears; for these Free-men dreading the intended Yoke, encounter'd their Adversaries with equal Bravery and

Success; insomuch that (being disciplined by the Lord of Hosts) Barak's blunted Sword triumph'd over the numerous and imperious Forces of Sifera .--- So decifive was the Battle, and fo great the Slaughter, that he who lately had Thousands at his Command, and therefore faid to one Legion, Go, and it goeth; to another, Come, and it cometh; now quits his stately Chariot, and, destitute of all Attendants, flies on foot, feeking Protection in dangerous Obscurity +. Thus (with respect to Israel) Darkness was agreeably exchanged for Light, Sorrow for Joy, and threatned Bondage for glorious and invaluable Liberty .--- Upon Ifrael's obtaining fuch a feafonable and important Victory, with how much Decency does the inspired Writer introduce the Exhortation, Praise ye the Lord ?----Man's Propenfity to overlook the principal Agent (on fuch like Occasions) shews the Expediency of

+ Chap. iv. 15, 20, &c.

3 2 point-

pointing out the Object to whom the

highest Praises are due.

Every Community indulged with a Revolution equally defireable with that to which our Text has a Relation, is bound by all the generous Motives of GRATITUDE, to ascribe Glory and Honour, Thanksgiving and Praise, to its Heavenly Deliverer; is excited to make honourable Mention of his Benevolence, to observe all his admirable Providences concurring in the grand Event; to rejoice in him as a Father, Friend, and Portion; to devote itself folemnly, ferioufly, and without Referve, to his Service; to make its continual Supplications to him, and repose its Confidence in him, whilst Dangers are prefenting from any Quarter whatfoever. In a word, the Redeemed of the Lord are called upon to adore, admire, magnify, and perpetually ferve him, who upholdeth their Souls in Life, and preserves their Feet from falling.

From

From the Correspondence between ancient and modern Events, you (poffibly) may have anticipated the intended Application: However, be that as it will, from the Sacred History we may difcern, that a People highly favoured of Heaven, may, for a Season, be exercised with very grievous Oppresfions. How unscriptural then were the late Apprehensions of some Britons, who concluded themselves judicially forfaken, merely because tried with a temporary Affliction?---From the foregoing Story we may also perceive, that God hears, and remarkably answers the Prayers of the Afflicted. Religious Fasts and solemn Humiliation are not in vain,----We may learn hence too, that when the Almighty defigns Deliverance, Instruments are not wanting to effect it. When Israel is to be rescued from Egyptian Bondage with an high Hand, and an out-stretch'd Arm, God prepares a Moses for the important Enterprize.

terprize. If afterwards the litigious Canaanites are to be subdued before the favourite People, he raises up a Succession of Heroes to preside over, and manage their Military Affairs. And give me leave to add, if he has doom'd Rebellion to Death, he has kindly raifed up, and amply qualified WILLIAM, to open its Veins and extract its Vitals .-- May we not infer likewife from the Premises, that God will guard and fecure the Religion he has founded? Israel's Religion owed its Existence to the peculiar Care and Indulgence of Heaven; for God gave them his Judgments and his Statutes. Well, having thro' his Kindness been the Author, his Fidelity engages and prompts him to be the Guardian of their Religious Constitution. With how much Confidence and Satisfaction may Protestants leave their Cause in the Hands of its ancient Patron?---This Subject further intimates the Obligation refulting from the Reception of Mercies:

Mercies: Permit me then, Sirs, after congratulating you on the joyful Occafion which is fresh upon our Memories, to call upon GREAT BRI-TAIN in general, and this Societyin particular, to praise the Lord for avenging us on our Enemies. Ambition, Bigotry, and Rebellion, joined hand in hand, with a View to overthrow our Civil and Religious Liberties, and at the same time dethrone our legal Sovereign King GEORGE. The Rebels, like a fwelling Torrent, overflowed the North, and boldly pierced into the very Heart of England. The Country before them was like the Garden of Eden, but behind them like a barren Wilderness. The Traces of their Cruelty and Rapine were every where vifible. Their daring and intolerable Infolence at length rouzed the British Spirit to such a Degree, that the People willingly offered themselves to engage the insulting Foe. Upon the Advance of our English Volunteers

lunteers and Freemen towards the abject Slaves and Dupes, they fled. By this Retreat the British Lion was indeed for a while evaded, but they foon fell into the Hands of the Northern Bear, in whose Empire being affaulted by the grim Tyrants Hunger and Cold, the Desperadoes resolve upon, and offer us Battle. But how different the practical End or View of the different Armies? The one strove for experienced, and therefore much-admired LIBERTY; the other for religious Fetters and Civil Bondage. Thus variously prompted, the Forces meet, the thundering Cannon loud proclaims their mutual Indignation; till the Rebels, galled by our fuccessful Fires, fled with Precipitation before our purfuing Troops. Come, view the Fields now drunk with Rebellious Blood! How great the Change! The Men that lately trod the Plains with blooming Hopes, or desperate Rage, are now prostrate, groaning, bleeding, dying.

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The just Rewards of Perjury and Rebellion! See some ungrateful Wretches abusing the Men, who, touch'd with Generosity, gave them desired Quarter, meeting the Wages of their Baseness. With pleasing Horror view the Stragglers falling by our pursuing, and now unrelenting Swords. O let us praise the Lord for thus avenging Britain!

To Thankfulness we are still further called, by a Survey of the Expence which this feafonable VICTORY coft us. True, fome (alas! we think too many) brave and bonest BRITONS fell; Loyal and Rebellious Blood was mingled, but how great the Disproportion! Since, according to a modest Calculation, forty Victims were offer'd at the Shrine of every British LOYA-LIST. Did not our God cover our Soldiers Heads in the Day of Battle? If our perfidious Enemies are hewn down when flying, shall we have no Respect to him, who sometimes enables

ables one to chase a thousand, and two to put ten thousand to Flight? If the adverse Balls range aloft, rather than graze upon our Lines; if French Ingenuity is baffled, and fuccessless; if our opening Cannons disclose their awful Contents, spreading Slaughter and Destruction amongst our Foes, must we not own the Benevolence of the great Engineer the Lord of Hosts? If invading Frenchmen, struck with the Terror of our Arms, furrender, let us bless the Lord who has espoused our Cause, and happily exchanged Infults for Triumph .--- As Praise is doubtless very comely, so it ought to be advanced in proportion to the Calamities we are freed from, and the Mercies we are in the Enjoyment of.

If none of either Sex, or of any Age, were to be spared, what Reason to abound in Thankfulness for a Deliverance out of their Hands, whose tender Mercies were intended Cruelty.—If guided

guided merely by mercenary Motives, methinks our grateful Acknowledgments should be made to God, on the behalf of KING GEORGE. We have now a Protestant PRINCE upon the Throne, and (if it is the Will of Heaven) may he long fway the Imperial Scepter! We are bleffed with a King, who has hitherto made the Laws of the Realm the invariable Standard of his Regal Conduct; being equally tenacious of the People's Privilege and his own Prerogative. He now fits at the Helm, whose Happiness is to reign in the Hearts and Affections of his Subjects. We have a Royal Father, freely exposing his illustrious Son to Toils, Hardships, and Death itself, in Defence of his People's Interests. Henceforth let all Calumny cease, let all Protestants warmly affect King GEORGE; and fince he is the Minister of God unto them for Good, let them be thankful to that God by whom Kings reign, and Princes decree Justice. What a

de-

delightful Scene appears, when we behold a numerous Progeny trained up in the View of, and accurately acquainted with, the Maxims of Civil and Religious LIBERTY? Again, bless the Lord for the Preservation of his Royal Highness WILLIAM DUKE of CUMBERLAND, in the late Engagement. View the MANLY YOUTH leading on his Father's Troops! See the British HERO, whose Presence of Mind, whose known Generofity, whose valiant Behaviour, reflect a pleasing Lustre upon the Dignity of his Birth. Behold him at the first Onset boldly confronting his Enemies in the Centre of his Forces! Ye Protestants, behold the British WIL-LIAM exposing his Life for your Sakes! Follow him, whilft he rides from Troop to Troop, animating his Soldiers by his Presence, Counsel, and Example! May we not look on him as our great Deliverer (under God) and at the same time cherish Hopes that

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Providence reserves him to be a further Scourge to the perfidious French? If fo, then let us pay the King of Kings fome suitable Tribute. As the General, fo the Troops under his Command, acquired immortal Reputation: See with what Firmness and Constancy they withstand the impetuous Enemy; with what Dexterity and Success they ply their Arms. Highland Sword and Target are now no longer Proof against the English Bayonet. Horse and Foot acted their Parts, as if resolved to be henceforth MEN of RENOWN. Oh then praise the Lord, who taught their Hands to war, and their Fingers to fight. But remember you are not to rest here, for our generous Religion obliges us to render unto all their Dues, and therefore Honour to whom Honour; fince then the Protestant Part of these Kingdoms in general, during our Commotions, have demeaned themselves honourably, let them be mutually affectionate and beneficent.

neficent. Should we content ourselves with this general Hint, it is possible, we may be wanting in Point of Gratitude, to our deserving Fellow-Subjects; we shall therefore descend to Particulars. How does the Roll swell whilst we record the British WOR-THIES! With how much Justice are GUEST, BLAKENEY, and AGNEW commended? Englishmen applaud their Fidelity, Bravery, and Success: Nor dare they overlook LOUDON, CAMPELL, &c. who (free from Papal and Rebellious Contagion) willingly offered themselves to revenge GREAT BRITAIN's Wrongs. View this brief Catalogue drawn from a long Train of Heroes. And fince Heaven has graced the Military Character with Merit, let us generously reward it with grateful Respect. I cannot (without an insufferable Affront both to God and Man) pass over in Silence the remarkable Harmony which subsisted between King

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King GEORGE and his PARLIA-MENT, during our National Diftractions; the one requires, the other chearfully grants; the one reminds of Danger, whilst the other demonstrates an unufual Zeal, ready Obedience, and unshaken Loyalty. With thankful Eyes behold, and duly value the British MERCHANTS, who, TRUE PATRIOTS! retrieved and faved our threatned, finking, and almost expiring Credit. See the Avenues to King GEORGE daily thronged with Loyal Protestants of every Denomination, each ready to give his Majesty the ftrongest Assurances of his firm Attachment to his Person and Government. View the venerable and deferving Clergy, engaging to employ their Talents and Influence, in quelling Sedition, by exposing Popery, and cultivating the Principles of LIBER-TY and LOYALTY. Lo! the Gentlemen of the Long Robe appear, in folemn Cavalcade, ready to make a Ten-

Tender to their Prince of Wealth and Life. In a word, we may reflect with Pleasure, and Admiration, whilst we behold all Ranks and Degrees of Protestants, both in our Colonies abroad, and these Kingdoms at Home, concurring in this common Refolution, viz. to check Rebellion, to maintain the Succession to this Crown in the illustrious House of HANOVER, and preserve the Protestant Religion against Roman Invaders and abjured Pretenders. Hiftory may be long ranfacked, before a parallel Instance occurs, to that we have now before us, wherein Protestants in general so willingly offered themselves in the Defence of their KING, RELIGION, and LIBERTY. Altho', as possessed of Humanity, we compassionate the saughter'd and inbuman Creatures (the Effect of Prayer and Valour) let us be ever mindful of, and thankful for the fignal Deliverance we now commemorate. Praise ye the Lord, for avenging Britain, when the -03 People

People willingly offered themselves. And tho' we glory, let us rejoice with Moderation; and whenever a public Thankfgiving shall be celebrated, by Royal Authority, let us guard against Excess and Riot, lest by Intemperance and Luxury on that Occasion, we draw down fresh, or beavier Judgments on our own Heads, or transmit them to Posterity. Certainly I may be chearful as a Man, without being drunk like a Beaft. I am not obliged by Religion, or the Rules of Civility, to shew my Loyalty by reeling Noise and Nonsense, tho' these are (by some) esteem'd almost reputable on public Occasions .- - With how much Affection and Pity should we look on our Fellow-Subjects, who fuffered for their LOYALTY and RELIGION in the late borrid RE-BELLION? How many Families are impoverished by the plundering Miscreants? What Inconveniencies from pinching Hunger? What Hardships from the Inclemency of the Seafon,

fon have many encounter'd, whilst driven from their Habitations, they took Sanctuary in Caves and Mountains? Put on then as Men, put on as Englishmen and Protestants, Bowels of Compassion towards your Countrymen. Remember those who have been in Bonds, remember the Exiles; shew yourselves ready to contribute towards the Restoration of their Settlement, Peace and Comfort, whenfoever our Superiors shall require your Assistance. We have fmarted hitherto principally by Sympathy; let us shew ourselves worthy Members of the British Body, by bearing our Parts in the Losses suftained thro' an Attachment to the British Constitution .--- And at the same Time let us be thankful for the Tranquility of England, and our Exemption from the Surprize, the Dangers, and Injuries, which were fo fenfibly felt in the North. What Conspiracies were formed, how great the invisible Ruin that threatned us, Time which

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which brings fecret Things to Light, may discover. However, this we know, that our Persons, our Relatives, our Religion, our Properties were not secure, whilft Rapine, Murder, Cruelty, and Oppression, were rampant in the extreme Parts of these Realms. O that we may as much distinguish ourfelves by our Gratitude, as Heaven has distinguished us by its Mercies! What transporting Pleasures do we feel, what Life is kindled in our Breasts, now we behold the benevolent Answers which Heaven grants to our Sighs, Tears, and Prayers? How are we elated, whilst our Interviews are sweetned by mutual Congratulations? The Clouds which were Months a gathering, are chaced away: The Sun of Righteoufness arises with Healing, and Salvation under its Wings. May the auspicious Day in succeeding Years be always welcome to Britons! May its Name be wrote in golden Capitals, that he that runs may read the grateful Senfe

Sense we retain of our happy Deliverance! With Gladness let us meet the returning Morn, when Liberty, facred LIBERTY, dawned afresh! Our LI-BERTY, eminently rescued out of the Hands of Antichristian Tyrants, let us highly prize, and wifely improve. We have now our Bibles in our Hands, translated into a Language we understand, which we may peruse without any Papal Obstructions : Let us examine their Contents, with Diligence equal to that of the Miner, when he is fearching for hid Treasure. We have not the formidable Arguments of Fire and Faggot laid before us, to convince us of the Truth of Popish Tenets; each being left to follow the free Dictates of his own Conscience. Oh, Sirs, let me befeech you to stand fast in that LIBERTY wherewith Christ has made you free; never entertain indifferent Thoughts about that Yoke of Bondage, which your Fore-fathers found too heavy for them to bear.

L 29.]

As an Antidote against Supineness, and Indolence of this Sort, furvey the bloody, monstrous, treacherous, unnatural, and absurd Principles of Popery: A Scheme, (a Religion I can scarce call it) calculated to overthrow Civil Society, and to extirpate all true Religion from the World. View i with Abhorrence, and use your utmost Endeavours to make it truly hateful in your respective Families, and throughout the Nation. Prudently instil the Principles of LIBERTY and HUMANITY into the uncultivated and tender Minds of Children and Servants, that they may not become an easy Prey to seducing Papists. From which Practice your Dependants will not only reap unspeakable Advantages, but you yourselves deserve the Character of loyal Subjects, real Patriots, sincere Protestants, and grateful Professors. By using our Privileges thus discreetly and wisely, we shall have growing Occasion to thank Heaven 1 30

Heaven for our late Victory .--- Again, let us guard against criminal Security, let us always exercife a proper Jealoufy towards Papists, who are frequently most fair and beautiful without, when they have the blackest Designs lodged within. Let us be always ready (agrecable to our late Resolution) to go into the Field in behalf of a Protefant King against any Romish Conspirators. Let the Arms we lately purchased with that laudable Intent (if necessary) be always in Readiness upon any Emergency of that Sort. We have Reason to suspect Popish Plots, and desperate Attempts are not entirely extinguished. But Thanks be to Heaven for the Prospects of a seasonable Check, whenfoever their Efforts may be renewed. What a pleasant Emotion did we feel, when this Society, this Town, this County, when the various Counties in ENGLAND associated, in order to raise independent Regiments against the common Enemy?

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Were any Protestants undetermined at the late Crisis, halting between our legal KING and an invading PRE-TENDER, let them, in order to establish their Judgments, make the Tour of France, where Poverty, Slavery, and Discontent among the Subjects (the bleffed Fruits of Arbitrary Power and Ecclefiastical Tyranny) may convince them of their present preserable Situation; and read them a Lecture, which shall filence their Clamours, and teach them to acquiesce in the mild and reputable Government of King George. As Praise should ascend for Mercies received, so likewise should our daily Prayers for further Successes. Let us furround the Throne of Grace with our warm Supplications, that the late Indulgence may be the Fore-runner or first Fruits of a plentiful Harvest. With what Ardor should we follicite the Continuance of the divine Favour? With what Constancy and Affection should we embrace re-

turning

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Ordinances? And fince all Bleffings are conveyed to us on the Account of, and thro' the Mediation of Jefus Chrift, let us prize him as God's Ordinance for Salvation, who ever lives to make Interceffion for his People. In fine, fince God has kindly delivered us out of the Hands of our Enemies, let us ferve him without Fear, in Holiness and Righteousness before him all the Days of our Lives. Amen.

F I N I S.



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